



## The Year That Was 2020



**As the year comes to a close, we asked industry, government, and community leaders to reflect back on the year that was 2020. What were the challenges they had to overcome? What inspired them as they navigated a year full of trials never seen before? And finally, what are they excited about for 2021?**

Unsurprisingly, COVID-19 has caused delays to the planning process, which impacted our Maxwell Underground Project in the NSW Upper Hunter. Fortunately, the NSW Government and Department of Planning, Industry and Environment have done an amazing job to prioritise and fast-track job-creating and economy strengthening infrastructure projects.

It has been inspiring to observe the resilience of the Malabar workforce and the communities of the Upper Hunter who have responded so positively to the lockdown and social distancing. We've done our best to lend a hand where we can and to help build the community up during such a difficult period.

The IPC Public Hearing for the Maxwell Project recently concluded, and we are hoping for a final determination before the end of the year. If the Project is approved, construction would begin in 2021, which would mean 250 new jobs for the region and a long-term investment boost for local suppliers and businesses.

**Wayne Seabrook, Chairman, Malabar Resources**

